

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No  
PCT/IB2008/050671

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. E04F15/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
E04F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 199 40 837 A1 (BOECKL KARL [DE]) 23 November 2000 (2000-11-23) column 21, line 57 - column 22, line 33; figures 24,28,30	1-16
X	EP 1 400 641 A (KAINDL M [AT]) 24 March 2004 (2004-03-24) figures 1-5	1-13,16
X	GB 2 307 260 A (ARDERN FERGUS JOHNATHAN [GB]) 21 May 1997 (1997-05-21) figures 1,3,4	1-6
X	DE 102 53 553 A1 (KATTWINKEL FRIEDER [DE]) 2 October 2003 (2003-10-02) figures 17,18	1-3
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 June 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/08/2008

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## C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 816 283 A (INSCA INT SL [ES]) 8 August 2007 (2007-08-08) figures 13,14,18	1-5
X	WO 2006/113228 A (CERASI MARK A [US]; KUBIC DAVID [US]) 26 October 2006 (2006-10-26) figures 17-20,30	1-6,11, 12

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## Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers allsearchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-16

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-16

floor element with hooking means  
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2. claims: 1 + 17, 18-28

flooring element with a support spacer  
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/IB2008/050671

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19940837	A1	23-11-2000	NONE	
EP 1400641	A	24-03-2004	CA 2440554 A1 CN 1495324 A DE 10243196 A1 US 2004060255 A1	18-03-2004 12-05-2004 15-04-2004 01-04-2004
GB 2307260	A	21-05-1997	AT 201075 T AU 707532 B2 AU 7581296 A DE 69612757 D1 DE 69612757 T2 DK 861351 T3 EP 0861351 A1 ES 2158361 T3 WO 9718353 A1 US 6089784 A	15-05-2001 15-07-1999 05-06-1997 13-06-2001 28-02-2002 27-08-2001 02-09-1998 01-09-2001 22-05-1997 18-07-2000
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WO 2006113228	A	26-10-2006	EP 1880069 A2 US 2006254182 A1	23-01-2008 16-11-2006